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Message Text

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PAGE 01 MILAN 02654 091710Z
13
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /058 W
---------- 061300
R 091000Z DEC 76
FM AMCONSUL MILAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5113
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, IT
SUBJECT: PLI LOMBARDY REGIONAL CONGRESS (DECEMBER 5, 1976): NO FURTHER COOPERATION WITH PCI

REF MILAN 2344

1. LOMBARDY PLI REGIONAL CNGRESS DECEMBER 5 VOTED DISSATISIFACTION WITH PRESENT LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT CO-OPERATION WITH PCI, WHICH IT SAID PLI SHOULD AVOID COUNTENANCING. BOTH PLI NATIONAL SECRETARY VALERIO ZANONE AND LONG-TIME PLI MILANESE LEADER GIOVANNI MALA-GODI PARTICIPATED. BUT PARTY'S NATIONAL POLICY TOOK BEATING NONETHELESS.

2. CONGRESS SAW TWO GROUPS TRYINGFOR LEADERSHIP. FIRST, IN EXPLICIT SUPPORT OF PARTY'S NATIONAL LINE, WAS THAT WHICH FAVORED RECENT PLI ENTRY INTO LOMBARDY REGIONAL GIUNTA AND THUS GAVE APPROAVAL TO MANEUVER WHEREBY PCI NOW HELPS ELABORATE NEW LEGISLATION (REFTEL). SECOND GROUP REJECTED LOMBARDY SOLUTION. THIS LATTER GROUP PREDOMINATED, HANDS DOWN, IN CONGRESS' SELECTION OF NEW PLI REGIONAL COUNCIL, WINNING 14 OF 21 SEATS.

3. DOCUMENT FINALLY APPROVED BY CONGRESS AND REFLECTING HARDLINERS' VIEW CRITICZED PRESENT LOMBARDY REGIONAL GOVERNMENT FOR OPENING TO COMMUNISTS "EVER INCREASING POSSIBILITIES FOR INFLUECE...ON THE WAY TO A COM-
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PLETE TAKEOVER" AND URGED THAT THERE BE END TO "EVEN

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THE APPEARANCE" OF COLLABORATION BETWEEN PLI AND PCI.

4. NEW PLI LOMBARDY REGIONAL SECRETARY IS GUIDO SASSO AND VICE SECRETARY FRANCO ACQUARO. ELECTED REGIONAL PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT WERE SAM QUILLERI AND PIERLUIGI MARIANI, RESPECTIVELY.

5. PLI LOMBARDY CONGRESS THUS REPEATED PHENOMENNON THAT IS OCCURRING IN OTHER PARTIES HERE, PARTICULARLY DC AND PRI: SPLIT BETWEEN THOSE WHO WANT TO DRAW LINE AGAINST FURTHER COOPERATION WITH PCI AND THOSE WHO FEEL GOOD RELATIONS WITH COMMUNISTS ARE ESSENTIAL TO SUR-MOUNTING PRESENT ECONOMIC CRISIS.FINA

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